

Message Text

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63

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08

L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

OMB-01 DRC-01 /191 W

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R 071705Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0063

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 4170

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD MO

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (C-ER-3-570504)

REF: STATE 173188 (NOTAL)

TOKYO FOR US GATT DELEGATION

1. GOM WILL PARTICIPATE IN TOKYO MEETING AS AN INTERESTED OBSERVER. IT WOULD, THEREFORE, HAVE NO INTEREST IN REOPENING ANY PART OF DRAFT DECLARATION.

2. MOROCCO IS NOT CLASSED AS ONE OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED. GOM WILL NATURALLY BE WARY OF GRANTING SPECIAL PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT TO THESE NATIONS, WHICH MIGHT REDUCE ITS OWN FOREIGN AID INFLOWS.

3. IN PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH US, GOM OFFICIALS HAVE CHARACTERIZED REVERSE PREFERENCES AS A NECESSARY EVIL--

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IN EFFECT THE PRICE THEY MIGHT HAVE TO PAY TO OBTAIN

EC AID AND TRADE CONCESSIONS. IN CONVERSATION WITH ECON COUNSELOR THIS WEEK, HOWEVER, FINANCE MINISTER GUESSOUS TOOK A STRONGER TACK. HE STRESSED (A) HIS CHAGRIN THAT EC, UNDER US PRESSURE, WAS RETREATING FROM REVERSE PREFERENCE CONCEPT AND (B) HIS VIEW THAT GRANTING SUCH CONCESSIONS ALLOWED COUNTRY LIKE MOROCCO TO RETAIN NATIONAL DIGNITY. ACCORDING TO HIM, MOST FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN STATES FEEL THE SAME WAY BUT ANGLOPHONES DO NOT. (WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER THIS IS ACCURATE.) HE ALSO ADDED THAT HE NONETHELESS UNDERSTOOD US MOTIVES IN PRESSING FOR ELIMINATION OF REVERSE PREFERENCES.

4. WE WOULD SPECULATE THAT GUESSOUS' PRESENT STANCE REFLECTS FRENCH PRESSURE ON REVERSE PREFERENCES ISSUE AND PERHAPS EXISTENCE SEVERAL SENSITIVE BILATERAL ISSUES BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES (E.G. GOM RECUPERATION OF FRENCH-OWNED LANDS).
ROCKWELL

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Message Attributes

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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